



City Administrator's Report

April 2008

Dear Reader,

Each month, this report from the City Administrator's Office provides a brief summary and update of major activities, events, projects, and programs that impact the Santa Barbara community. Feel free to send me your comments and suggestions.

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Key Meetings

City Council Meetings

April 15, 22, 29, 2 p.m., City Hall Council
Chambers, 735 Anacapa Street.

Community Events

Plan Santa Barbara Community Workshop

Saturday, April 19, 9 a.m. to Noon,
Faulkner Gallery.

Plan Santa Barbara Community Workshop

Wednesday, April 23, 6 to 9 p.m.
Faulkner Gallery. For more information, go
to www.youplansb.org.

Flags on State Street: www.santabarbaradowntown.com

CALM (Child Abuse Listening and Mediation)	March 31 to April 11
Rape Crisis Center	April 11 to April 21
Girls, Inc.	April 21 to May 2
Cinco de Mayo	May 2 to May 6:

City Administrator's Office

What's Going on Inside Santa Barbara? *Inside Santa Barbara* is City TV's award-winning, monthly newsmagazine show that keeps the community up-to-date on the City's most significant issues, projects and events. In April's episode of *Inside Santa Barbara*, City TV continues to cover the Plan Santa Barbara process by taking a closer look at the recently released Development Trends Report and how the public can get involved. Attention all

commuters! City TV hits the road with the largest transportation project in the history of Santa Barbara County. Also, are you prepared for an emergency? A group of local teens is learning what it takes to survive a natural disaster through the City Fire Department's Community Emergency Response Team training. Channel 18 also heads to the 1235 Teen Center for its One Year Anniversary Celebration. Also, find out how to save water and save money as City TV informs viewers about the expansion of the Water Rebate Program. Finally, viva Las Vegas! *Inside Santa Barbara* goes to the airport where new non-stop service to Las Vegas has taken flight. To find out when you can watch the show, go to www.citytv18.com.

Administrative Services Department

Annual Workshop for City Advisory Groups. The City's annual workshop for members of City Advisory Groups has been scheduled for Wednesday, April 30, 2008, at 4:30 p.m. at the Faulkner Gallery, located in the Central Library at 40 East Anapamu Street. Invitations will be sent to City Advisory Group members, City staff liaisons and volunteers on various Parks and Recreation Department advisory committees. Attendance at the workshop is encouraged and will include presentations made by the City Attorney's Office on Robert's Rules of Order, the Brown Act and the Government Tort Claims Act.

Boards and Commissions Recruitments Added to E-Subscriptions. Currently, there are various e-subscriptions available on the City's website, such as the City Council Agenda packets, City Administrator's Monthly Report and City News in Brief. Boards and Commissions Recruitments has been added to the e-subscription list. Once subscribed to this notification, you will receive announcements of unscheduled vacancies and of semi-annual, annual or special recruitments in progress to fill vacancies on boards, commissions and committees that are either advisory to the Council, or to which the Council appoints a representative from the City.

To sign up, visit the City's website at www.santabarbaraca.gov; to the right of the home page and under Quick Links, select "Sign up for e-subscriptions," click in the appropriate box to select the subscription(s) of your choice.

Additional information regarding boards and commissions, vacancies, and the application form can be obtained by accessing the [City's website](http://www.santabarbaraca.gov) or by contacting the City Clerk's Office at 564-5309.

Airport Department

February Passenger Count Soars. More than 61,000 passengers arrived and departed at the Santa Barbara Airport in February, 9.4% higher than the same month last year. The most popular routes were United's flights to Denver and Horizon Air's flights to Seattle, followed by American Eagle to Dallas Ft./Worth. Currently, there are over 80 commercial flights per day between SBA and twelve major international airports.

SBA Hits the Jackpot! Allegiant Air is scheduled to begin nonstop service to Las Vegas on May 22nd aboard a 150-seat jet aircraft three times a week. Allegiant is offering introductory

Community Development Department

On April 17th, the Commission will consider and make a decision on the Radio Square Project at 210 W. Carrillo Street. The prior three and four-story project has been withdrawn and the Commission will consider a project with two and three-stories. Also, the Commission will hold a hearing to take input on the Draft Revised Environmental Impact Report - Selected Chapters for the Veronica Meadows Specific Plan Project at 900-1100 Las Positas Road.

Finance Department

TRANSIENT OCCUPANCY TAXES								
Month	FY 2005	Change from Prior Year	FY 2006	Change from Prior Year	FY 2007	Change from Prior Year	FY 2008	Change from Prior Year
July	\$ 1,301,652	8.6%	\$ 1,477,789	13.5%	\$ 1,556,439	5.3%	\$ 1,613,163	3.6%
Aug	1,357,717	0.6%	1,504,589	10.8%	1,591,998	5.8%	1,645,684	3.4%
Sept	931,244	5.0%	1,109,428	19.1%	1,196,533	7.9%	1,218,695	1.9%
Oct	914,718	5.9%	963,261	5.3%	1,051,043	9.1%	1,075,341	2.3%
Nov	721,982	3.6%	809,684	12.1%	887,047	9.6%	870,754	-1.8%
Dec	575,075	4.0%	671,965	16.8%	669,540	-0.4%	669,133	-0.1%
Jan	606,484	3.7%	661,507	9.1%	677,428	2.4%	691,651	2.1%
Feb	699,349	-0.6%	738,532	5.6%	758,041	2.6%	811,227	7.0%
Mar	872,554	11.5%	855,597	-1.9%	953,927	11.5%		
April	941,281	7.5%	1,000,696	6.3%	1,046,772	4.6%		
May	1,001,438	11.8%	1,015,349	1.4%	1,052,582	3.7%		
June	1,158,018	18.9%	1,223,974	5.7%	1,249,817	2.1%		
FY Total	\$ 11,081,510	6.9%	\$ 12,032,372	8.6%	\$ 12,691,167	5.5%	\$ 8,595,648	2.5%
Budget	\$ 10,684,900		\$ 11,504,200		\$ 12,630,600		\$ 13,581,500	

Includes only the 10% unrestricted TOT revenues. Beginning in January 2001, an additional 2% is credited to Creeks/Clean Water (Measure B).

Sales Tax Grows 0.3% for December Quarter. While the 0.3% growth in sales tax revenue for the quarter ended December 31st was modest, the fact that it grew at all is actually a good result. Many other jurisdictions did not fare as well. The table below is on a calendar quarter basis and not on the accrual basis used to actually account for sales tax revenue. On an accrual basis through the first half of the fiscal year, we are now right in line with our revised zero-growth estimate for the current fiscal year.

SALES TAX								
Quarter Ended	FY 2005	Change from Prior Year	FY 2006	Change from Prior Year	FY 2007	Change from Prior Year	FY 2008	Change from Prior Year
Sept 30	4,512,083	-0.5%	5,164,138	14.5%	5,234,636	1.4%	5,154,452	-1.5%
Dec 31	4,946,706	3.8%	5,034,371	1.8%	5,109,958	1.5%	5,125,067	0.3%
Mar 31	4,367,907	1.8%	4,367,052	0.0%	4,698,398	7.6%		
June 30	4,793,216	3.7%	4,992,005	4.1%	5,240,527	5.0%		
Totals	\$ 18,619,912	2.2%	\$ 19,557,566	5.0%	\$ 20,283,519	3.7%	\$ 10,279,519	-0.6%

Fire Department

Fire Station 1 Seismic Retrofit Project. A total of nine bid proposals for the construction project were received on March 25th. The apparent low bid came in at \$2 million under the engineer's estimate. Staff is currently analyzing the proposals and will go before City Council on April 22nd with a recommendation to award the bid. Construction on this comprehensive structural and interior remodel project is anticipated for completion by the summer of 2009.

Clearing the Road. This fiscal year the Wildland Fire Division of the Fire Department completed 14 miles of road clearance within the Wildland Fire Suppression Benefit Assessment District. While completing this contract we removed 40 loads of chipped material, or about 80 tons. Only one load could not be recycled and mulched due to exotic pest plants. We were able to recycle 97% of the loads. This year we also added on extra work for canopy thinning throughout the area.

"Code Blue" Life Saved. On March 29th, Fire Engine 3 was dispatched to a "Code Blue" medical emergency at the dialysis center. Firefighters found dialysis staff performing CPR on a 77 year old male dialysis patient. The man was undergoing dialysis when he stopped breathing followed by loss of a pulse. Firefighters took over CPR and assisted the AMR ambulance paramedics with an intravenous line and intubation. AMR paramedics later called Station 3 to inform firefighters that the man had maintained a pulse and a solid cardiac rhythm and was recovering in the emergency room.

Battalion Chief Promotion. Dean Sylvies has been appointed to the position of Training Battalion Chief. Dean formerly held the position of Training Captain, and is a 26-year veteran with the department. Dean's track record with respect to departmental training has been exemplary and he will do an excellent job in this new assignment. His predecessor, John Ahlman will be retiring this month after 34 years of dedicated service.

Library Department

Carpinteria Library Book Club Debuts. The Carpinteria Branch library is co-sponsoring a new monthly book club with *The Coastal View News* weekly newspaper. The club meets at the library on the third Wednesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. At its first meeting in February, the club discussed Last Night at the Lobster by Stewart O'Nan and chose The Road by Cormac McCarthy for the following meeting, which had double the turnout. The book club is open to the public.

Good Eats at Eastside Library. Artist and chef Jorge Arrunategui began a new series of cooking demonstrations at the Eastside Library's Martin Luther King Room on March 5th. The monthly sessions will feature healthy and easy-to-prepare recipes from different countries, and are designed especially for adults who want their children to be able to help prepare food. Numerous families participated in the first event, which included tasting the delicious Peruvian recipes Chef Jorge prepared. The April 7th demonstration will feature Asian dishes.

More Healthy Eating at Eastside Branch. The Santa Barbara Junior League held a special event at the Eastside Library on March 13th called, "Healthy Kids Cook," with children from Franklin Elementary School. The children learned how to make turkey wraps, engaged in story time, played a card game about food and nutrition, and made crafts. The Junior League also donated food and gardening children's books to the Eastside Library.

Children's Book Illustrator to Visit. Three-time Caldecott Honor Medal Award winner Jerry Pinkney will share stories and art work from his career as a beloved illustrator of children's literature at the Townley Room of the Santa Barbara Public Library on Sunday, April 13th at 2 p.m. Mr. Pinkney's award-winning books are *John Henry*, *The Talking Eggs*, and *Mirandy and Brother Wind*. Pinkney comes to Santa Barbara in conjunction with "Over Rainbows and Down Rabbit Holes: The Art of Children's Books" at the Santa Barbara Museum of Art, through June 15th.

Parks and Recreation Department

Douglas Family Preserve Community Planting Day - An Outstanding Success!

The Parks Division teamed up with the Friends of the Douglas Family Preserve and the Douglas Family Preserve Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) to hold a community planting day on March 15th. Over 35 volunteers participated in the planting of almost 750 native grasses and shrubs. The native grasses and shrubs were provided by Brad Taggart from *Friends of the DFP* and the project received some funding from Southern California Artists Painting for the Environment (SCAPE).

City Supports Community of Respect™ Program with Special Events this Spring

In celebration of the 5th anniversary of this community education program, the City has joined numerous other local agencies, schools, businesses and individuals to help ensure that Santa Barbara is a Community of Respect™ through a variety of creative educational approaches. Public activities sponsored by the City include:

- An excursion to the Museum of Tolerance, Wednesday, April 30th for adults, teens, families, and friends. Contact City Parks and Recreation at 897-2519.
- Melting Pot 9 Dance—No Place for Hate®, Friday, May 23rd at the Carrillo Recreation Center for teens 13 and over. Contact Teen Programs at 897-2650.
- Mayor Reads to Students, Thursday, April 24th, 8 to 9 a.m. at the Eastside Library. Mayor Marty Blum will read from a book on the theme of tolerance and respect to a class of elementary students from Franklin and Cesar Chavez schools. In addition, the main library lobby on Anapamu Street will feature a display of books, posters and other materials addressing the topic of respect and tolerance during the month of April. Contact Santa Barbara Public Library at 564-5633.

For more information about the Community of Respect™ Program and other activities, contact Interim Regional Director Jackie Reid at 564-6670. For information on the City's program, contact [Recreation Programs Manager Sarah Hanna](#) at 564-5428.

Junior Lifeguard Program Registration Scheduled for Saturday, April 19.

The Parks and Recreation's popular Junior Lifeguard summer program will be open for registration from 8 to 9:30 a.m. beginning Saturday, April 19th. Interested parents can register either online at www.parksandrecreation.com using eRecreation. Registration is also available at the Cabrillo Pavilion Bathhouse, 1118 East Cabrillo Boulevard. Registration for all other summer camps and programs is already underway. For more information on all [summer camp](#) information, call 564-5418.

Los Baños del Mar Pool to Close for Repairs. In order to repair a long-time leak in the deep end pool wall, both Los Baños and the West Beach Wading pools will be closed from June 21st through August 29th. The summer months were chosen to allow for the project to be completed without weather delays and to allow for modified swim programming at the Santa Barbara High School pool to minimize the impacts for all patrons.

The leak is located between the pool gutter and the deck, and has been an area of concern for the past ten years. This summer, the existing deep end pool wall will be removed and rebuilt. In addition, funding has been dedicated to repair and re-plaster the entire pool shell. Aquatic staff is also using this opportunity to standardize the pool ladders to be interchangeable and to address many of the minor facility concerns that are difficult to accomplish while the pool is operational.

A list of alternative swim venues, including the Santa Barbara High School pool and an East Beach ocean swim course, will be available at the Los Banos office, located at 620 Laguna Street and online at www.sbparksandrecreation.com. For more information, contact Rich Hanna, Aquatics Supervisor at 897-2591.

Youth Council Presents Workshop at 2008 Teen Summit. On March 1st, representatives of the Santa Barbara Youth Council conducted four workshops at the 2008 Teen Summit. Held in conjunction with the California Park and Recreation Society (CPRS) annual western states conference and the Southern California Teen Coalition, this year's event was hosted by the City of Lakewood and drew approximately 250 teens. The Santa Barbara Youth Council's presentation on Teens and Media engaged their peers in a discussion on how media ads affect teens and what teens can do to empower themselves. The summit's closing session was a presentation by the Freedom Writers, now adults who were made famous by a

recent motion picture and book about their life as teenagers at a high school in Long Beach, California.

The Youth Council was approached by other cities with requests to bring their workshop to them. It was an excellent demonstration of how Youth Council members have developed as leaders and public speakers and a good example of their commitment to community service and issues affecting teens.

Median Undergoes Beautification. The Garden Street median across the street from Chase Palm Park and the Visitor Center has undergone a major landscape renovation. With funding from Santa Barbara Beautiful for this project, the Parks Department installed a sustainable succulent garden that will provide a beautiful curb appeal to the entrance to the Waterfront.

Family Care Network Looking for Participants for Miracle Miles for Kids. The Family Care Network's 5th Annual Miracle Miles for Kids, a 10K Walk/Run benefiting foster and high-needs children and families in Santa Barbara and San Luis Obispo counties, will take place on Saturday, May 10. The 10K (6.2 miles) race course runs along the water's edge from Morro Rock in Morro Bay to the Cayucos Pier, one of the most beautiful stretches of beach in California. In addition, there is a post-race party with live music by Still Time, lunch, a diverse vendor fair, children's activities and an award ceremony. The race begins at 8:30 a.m. and the post-race celebration runs from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. City staff is encouraged to participate. Register online at www.fcni.org. The cost is \$30 through May 2nd and \$45 from May 3-10. For more information, call 781-3535.

Police Department

Officer Anita Chamberlain named Woman of the Year. Assemblymember Pedro Nava honored City employee Anita Chamberlain with a resolution at a ceremony in the State Capitol on March 10th, recognizing her as the 35th Assembly District Woman of the Year. Officer Chamberlain's current assignment is D.A.R.E. Officer, teaching the Drug Abuse Resistance Education curriculum to fifth and sixth graders. Officer Chamberlain is a 22-year veteran of the Santa Barbara Police Department.

Citizen's Academy Graduates Two More Classes. The Santa Barbara Police Department graduated two more Citizen's Academy classes. The Academy consists of members of the public attending two hour classes for eight weeks. The classes are taught by members of the Police Department from every division. The Citizen's Academy is offered in Spanish as well. Attendees are introduced to topics ranging from routine patrol, 9-1-1 procedures, to in depth investigations and SWAT procedures. Attendees are also offered the opportunity to conduct a ride-a-long and observe police work first hand. Anyone interested in attending future academies should contact Sergeant Lorenzo Duarte at 897-2332.

Public Works Department

Highway 101 Widening Milpas to Hot Springs Road to Begin. Beginning in early summer, construction will begin on the Highway 101 Operational Improvements Project

between Milpas Street and Hot Springs Road. This is a joint project carried out by Caltrans, SBCAG, and the City and is one of the largest projects undertaken by Caltrans in Santa Barbara County.

The project construction costs are approximately \$57 million and include the reconstruction of two major interchanges, six new or improved bridges, freeway widening, and improvements to local streets and circulation. Construction will take approximately four years to complete; each construction stage is approximately one year in length. During construction, Highway 101 will have two lanes open in each direction. Some nighttime lane closures will occur. However the majority of construction will occur behind concrete barriers during daytime, weekday work hours.

The Highway 101 Improvements between Milpas Street and Hot Springs Road are funded by Measure D and state highway funds. Measure D was passed by the voters of Santa Barbara County in November of 1989 to improve transportation infrastructure in the county. Measure D is a one-half cent sales tax that is collected from 1990 to 2010 to fund transportation projects and programs. More information on this project can be obtained by calling 1-888-SB-ROADS or by visiting www.SBroads.com.

Plaza Vera Cruz Park Improvements Project. On March 25, 2008, the Santa Barbara City Council approved a construction contract with V. Lopez Junior and Sons, Incorporated for construction of the Plaza Vera Cruz Park Improvements Project, located at 121 East Haley Street. This much needed project consists of upgrading the condition of the asphalt pavement, adding new concrete pathways and sitting areas, replacing deteriorated wood bollards with steel bollards, installing new park furnishings, installing an irrigation system, adding landscape beds and trees, and installing ten pedestrian light poles.

Construction is scheduled to start in mid-April 2008 and will last approximately three months. Construction activities will require closure of the park and the installation of a temporary fence around the turf area. The park service road will remain partially open, when not under active construction, for access by adjacent property owners along the south side of the road.

This project will significantly improve safety, access, and beautify the area by replacing deteriorated infrastructure at Plaza Vera Cruz Park. For additional information, contact [City Project Manager Adam Hendel](#) at 897-1921.

Waterfront Department

Providing Visitors with a Taste of Santa Barbara's Fishing Culture. What began as a Fishermen's co-op five years ago, the Santa Barbara Fish Market has turned into a full-service seven-day-a-week retail and wholesale operation. Owner/Operator Brian Colgate, with nine years' experience in the fish processing and fish sales business, expanded the business last year by moving to larger quarters--good for fishermen and good for seafood lovers. On many days you can see Fish Market staff unloading fresh fish right off local boats. The fish are then sold directly from the new location or delivered to other South Coast customers. This is the freshest locally caught seafood. Currently, the Market offers Santa Barbara Channel favorites including halibut, rock crab, thresher shark, black cod and spot prawns. Out-of-region choice picks include Maine lobster, Washington State mussels and oysters, south of the border

yellowfin tuna and swordfish. So, make it a point to stop by, check out the Fish Market and take home some fresh fish. You can also place special seafood orders online via the Santa Barbara Fish Market website at www.sbfish.com